AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising an Amplicon, a single strand sequence of nucleic acids specific to Francisella tularensis, selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28 and 32.

2. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising a single strand sequence of nucleic acids that is complimentary to the sequence of nucleic acids recited in Claim 1 or any portion thereof.

3. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising a single strand sequence of nucleic acids selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30 and 31.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) A method for detection of Francisella tularensis in a sample comprising using an assay to detect a first Amplicon comprising SEQ ID NO:4 and a second Amplicon comprising SEQ ID NO:8 in the sample, wherein detection of the first and second Amplicons in the sample indicates the presence of Francisella tularensis in the sample.

~~(i) providing a sample;~~

~~(ii) forming a mixture by adding the sample to a solution containing at least one series of nucleotide sequences having a forward primer, a reverse primer and a hybridization probe selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1, 2, 3; 5, 6, 7; 9, 10, 11; 13, 14, 15;17, 18, 19; 21, 22, 23; 25, 26, 27;29, 30, 31; under conditions suitable for isolating genomic DNA for amplification using PCR and under conditions suitable for hybridization with said at least one series of nucleotide sequences; and~~

~~(iii) detecting the presence of at least one Amplicon sequence by flurogenic 5' nuclease PCR assay, wherein the presence of said one Amplicon sequence indicates the existence of Francisella tularensis in the sample.~~

8. (NEW) The method of claim 7, wherein said assay is a fluorogenic 5'nuclease PCR assay.

9. (NEW) The method of claim 8, wherein said assay is performed using a first forward primer comprising SEQ ID NO:1, a first reverse primer comprising SEQ ID NO:2, and a first hybridization probe comprising SEQ ID NO:3 for detection of the first Amplicon and using a second forward primer comprising SEQ ID NO:5, a second reverse primer comprising SEQ ID NO:6, and a second hybridization probe comprising SEQ ID NO:7 for detection of the second Amplicon.

10. (NEW) The method of claim 7, comprising using the assay to detect a third Amplicon comprising SEQ ID NO:12 and a fourth Amplicon comprising SEQ ID NO:16 and a fifth Amplicon comprising SEQ ID NO:20 and a sixth Amplicon comprising SEQ ID NO:24 and a seventh Amplicon comprising SEQ ID NO:28 and an eighth Amplicon comprising SEQ ID NO:32 in the sample.

11. (NEW) The method of claim 10, wherein said assay is a fluorogenic 5'nuclease PCR assay.

12. (NEW) The method of claim 11, wherein the first Amplicon is detected using a first forward primer comprising SEQ ID NO:1, a first reverse primer comprising SEQ ID NO:2, and a first hybridization probe comprising SEQ ID NO:3 and the second Amplicon is detected using a second forward primer comprising SEQ ID NO:5, a second reverse primer comprising SEQ ID NO:6, and a second hybridization probe comprising SEQ ID NO:7 and the third Amplicon is detected using a third forward primer comprising SEQ ID NO:9, a third reverse primer comprising SEQ ID NO:10, and a third hybridization probe comprising SEQ ID NO:11 and the fourth Amplicon is detected using a fourth forward primer comprising SEQ ID NO:13, a fourth reverse primer comprising SEQ ID NO:14, and a fourth hybridization probe comprising SEQ ID NO:15 and the fifth Amplicon is detected using a fifth forward primer comprising SEQ ID NO:17, a fifth reverse primer comprising SEQ ID NO:18, and a fifth hybridization probe comprising SEQ ID NO:19 and the sixth Amplicon is detected using a sixth forward primer comprising SEQ ID NO:21, a sixth reverse primer comprising SEQ ID NO:22, and a sixth

hybridization probe comprising SEQ ID NO:23 and the seventh Amplicon is detected using a seventh forward primer comprising SEQ ID NO:25, a seventh reverse primer comprising SEQ ID NO:26, and a seventh hybridization probe comprising SEQ ID NO:27 and the eighth Amplicon is detected using a eighth forward primer comprising SEQ ID NO:29, a eighth reverse primer comprising SEQ ID NO:30, and a eighth hybridization probe comprising SEQ ID NO:31.

13. (NEW) The method of claim 7, wherein each Amplicon is detected in a separate reaction tube.

14. (NEW) The method of claim 10, wherein each Amplicon is detected in a separate reaction tube.

15. (NEW) The method of claim 7, wherein the sample is from an air monitor.

16. (NEW) The method of claim 10, wherein the sample is from an air monitor.

17. (NEW) A kit for performing the method of claim 7.

18. (NEW) A kit for performing the method of claim 9.

19. (NEW) A kit for performing the method of claim 10.

20. (NEW) A kit for performing the method of claim 11.